

Written by USDA

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USDA Rural Development Providing nearly \$14 Million to Assist with Construction

SHEBOYGAN, WI – A new era of service to seniors in Sheboygan, Wis and the surrounding communities took a giant step closer to becoming a reality today when Sheboygan Senior Community, Inc., in partnership with USDA Rural Development, broke ground on a new skilled nursing, assisted living, and short term rehabilitation facility.

Without room to add on to the current campus, this new second campus will be located on a 40 acre parcel of land located in the Town of Sheboygan. The project will construct a one level building with a partial basement, which will only be used for storage. The new facility will be comprised of a 60 bed licensed Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and 25 bed licensed Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF).

USDA Rural Development awarded \$11.486 million Direct Loan to Sheboygan Senior Community, Inc. and a \$2.5 million loan guarantee provided by Bank First National in Sheboygan under the Community Facilities Program. The funds, leveraged with more than \$1.8 million from the Center's own funds, will complete the \$15.8 million project.

"We are very appreciative for the outstanding service of the USDA Rural Development, WHEFA and Bank First National for the financing of our new Facility," said Joan Kleist, Executive Director of Sheboygan Senior Community. "A Facility that will carry on its traditions but also will begin a new, updated way of delivering care. A way which will provide our Resident's a more home-like environment with the safety, comfort and happiness they deserve for many, many years to come."

The new facility is designed using the "Neighborhood Model" which has separate "households" within the neighborhoods. This allows for a more home-like environment. It allows for greater flexibility and choice for residents and makes it easier for staff when assisting residents to live safely and comfortably. There will be shared living and kitchen areas, with private bedrooms

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and bathrooms in each household to make it as close to like home as possible. The Short Term Rehab area will be state-of-the art providing both inpatient and outpatient rehab services. Additional amenities will include a café, beauty salon, bank, and a small store.

“Sheboygan Senior Community, Inc. has established a strong reputation in East Central Wisconsin for providing a high level of care and skilled services to the residents of their facility. They are a worthy recipient of the resources and support Rural Development is providing,” said USDA Rural Development Wisconsin Community Programs Director, Brian Deaner. “Quality hospitals, schools and libraries are the building blocks for a vibrant rural America, and partnering together on this critical community asset reflects the commitment of local leaders to see this project through.”

State Assembly Representative Steve Kestell and State Senator Joe Liebhan presented Sheboygan Senior Community with a Citation from the Wisconsin State Assembly to commemorate the occasion.

The new facility will enable area senior residents to stay close to home and improved access for family members. Construction of the new facility is expected to be completed by the summer of 2015. It is estimated this project will create and save between 60-90 jobs in the region.

USDA Rural Development’s Community Facility Programs provides financial assistance for the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Loans, guarantees and grants are available to public entities for the construction, purchase, and/or renovation of various essential community facilities. These facilities include schools, libraries, childcare centers, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings and transportation projects.

USDA Rural Development’s funding continues to have a dramatic impact on rural communities across Wisconsin. Since 2009, USDA Rural Development has invested more than \$3.9 billion on essential public facilities, small and emerging businesses, water and sewer systems, and housing opportunities for Wisconsin families. Each year more than 100 rural communities in Wisconsin receive assistance from USDA Rural Development for community-improvement and public-safety projects.

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USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As the lead federal agency for rural development needs, USDA Rural Development returned over \$838 million dollars this past year to rural Wisconsin communities. Funds are used to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technological infrastructures. Further information on USDA Rural Development programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting the web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi>.

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